

# State of Connecticut Situation Report



### 24 August 2011 Hurricane Irene Report Period: 26 August 2011 0800 - 1200 HRS

<u>State Emergency Operations Center Activation Level</u>: Full Activation On Thursday August 25, 2011 at 4:55pm Governor Dannel Malloy proclaimed a state of civil preparedness emergency pursuant to CGS 28-9 relating to Hurricane Irene's expected landfall on Sunday August 28, 2010. The State EOC has been activated.

#### **Situation Summary**

A WebEOC Incident has been opened "24 Aug 2011 Hurricane Irene".

Since early Thursday August 25, 2011 planning and preparation efforts have been occurring to prepare for the adverse effects of Hurricane Irene. Weather forecasts are monitored for changing conditions and updates issued.

At 9:00am DESPP held a Unified Command Meeting with Governor Malloy.

At 11:15am DESPP held a statewide conference call with all Connecticut Municipality CEOs EMDs, Public Works Directors, and Service Chiefs to discuss storm forecast and preparation updates.

DEMHS and other State agencies are reviewing and implementing the tasks outlined in the Natural Disaster Plan, and the State Response Framework. Partner agencies have and are planning for the assignment of liaisons to the SEOC and extended operations related to the storm.

#### Agencies Represented at EOC

Department of Developmental Services

Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security
Division of State Police
Department of Public Health
Commission on Fire Prevention and Control
Connecticut Army National Guard
Department of Energy and Environmental Protection
Department of Corrections
Infoline (2-1-1)
FEMA Incident Management Assistance Team
Connecticut Judicial Department
Department of Consumer Protection
American Red Cross
Connecticut Light & Power
Department of Agriculture

All agencies are preparing workstations at SEOC and obtaining pertinent preparedness and readiness information.

#### WEATHER INFORMATION

HURRICANE WATCH REMAINS IN EFFECT FOR SOUTHERN CONNECTICUT...
TROPICAL STORM WATCH REMAINS IN EFFECT FOR NORTHERN CONNECTICUT...
HURRICANE IRENE EXPECTED TO ARRIVE IN CONNECTICUT SUNDAY MORNING...

At 11:00 AM the center of Hurricane Irene was located at 30.7 North 77.3 West (Approximately 330 Miles South Southwest of Cape Hatteras). Irene has maximum sustained winds of 105 MPH and is moving to the North at 14 MPH.

The National Hurricane Center (NHC) is now forecasting that Irene will remain a Category II hurricane today and remain a Category II hurricane until the storm passes over the outer banks of Cape Hatteras around 11:00 AM Saturday morning.

Irene is then forecast to move up along the immediate East Coast and arrive in the Norwalk area around 10:00 AM Sunday morning as a Category I hurricane. The first effects from Irene are still expected to begin Saturday afternoon with light rain which is expected to become heavy at times by midnight. Heavy rain is expected to continue from midnight on Saturday through the passage of the center of Irene Sunday morning (especially in Western Connecticut). Tropical storm force winds are expected to enter the state around midnight Saturday night and hurricane force winds are expected just after daybreak on Sunday. Although forecast confidence is getting better with each update, Irene is still 2 days away and additional changes to the track forecast are possible.

Based on the current forecast the evacuation order decision deadline would be by 1300 hrs on Saturday 27 August 2011. (Note: This deadline is subject to change as the National Hurricane Center forecast changes)

## Requests for assistance from the State Emergency Operations Center:

Regional Coordinators have received requests from local EMDs and Municipalities for resources, primarily consisting of sandbags.

- August 24, 2011 7,000 sandbags
- August 25, 2011
   24,750 sandbags
- August 26, 2011 As of 1100 hrs 32,990 sandbags

#### General Preparedness Information

All DEMHS Regions are preparing for shelter openings and CERT activations. Many towns have requested Red Cross support for local shelters.

The Town of Old Saybrook has declared a state of emergency.

Some of the preparation activities undertaken by the State of Connecticut are:

- Governor Malloy is emphasizing communities plan for the evacuation of portions the most severely threatened Connecticut coastal communities.
- Staging area are being established for equipment and commodities
- Readiness of hospitals, universities, nursing homes in low lying areas are being confirmed
- Discussions are ongoing with state agencies regarding possible transportation bans on highways and public transportation during peak storm conditions

Utility and communications entities have been developed contingency plans and are pre-staging assets for recovery efforts.

FEMA has arrived in Connecticut and various teams are pre-staged to assist with disaster operations, communications, and recovery

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